

Alpha Phi Omega – Region C

Policy on Area Conferences/Region Conferences

Because Alpha Phi Omega-Region C enjoys and cultivates a strong tradition of region/area conference attendance, history, pride and quality;

-And because Alpha Phi Omega-Region C's region conference attendance record currently and historically is comparable to other area/region conferences that involve multiple regions with more members and less geographical distance to cover;

-And because Alpha Phi Omega-Region C strives to make its region-wide conference as affordable as possible;

-And because Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity historically and consistently encourages regions and sections, alumni associations and chapters within the fraternity to adopt additional policies for self-organization and governance;

-And because we affirm our value of Alpha Phi Omega as an intercollegiate organization dedicated to providing growth, leadership and service opportunities for our undergraduate student members;

We, the chapters of Region C, hereby adopt the following statement:

Any conjoining between Region C and any other region(s) for the purpose of an Alpha Phi Omega area conference must first satisfy the following accountability checkpoints:

- a) Any area conference proposal must be presented, in writing, to every active Region C chapter during a time when school is in session, no less than four weeks before the end of any given semester;
- b) Any area conference proposal must be presented to the chapters of Region C at least one calendar year before said conference might occur, but no more than two years beforehand;
- c) Any proposal for a conjoined area conference must be presented to each of the Region C chapters at the same time, and must allow for up to 10 business days for a response from the chapter(s), to allow time for chapters to reflect, debate and consider any such proposal;
- d) Any proposal must include a guarantee that Region C policies pertaining to discounted registration costs for pledges/new members would be honored at a conjoined area conference;
- e) If the proposed conjoined conference is beyond the geographical boundaries of Region C, it must not be more than 250 miles from the second-closest active chapter within Region C;
- f) Any such proposal, to be considered a valid proposal, should include
 - proposed date
 - proposed city and campus location of conjoined area conference
 - proposed budget
 - cost per student (including what registration fee would cover, what it wouldn't cover)
 - proposed share of conference budget that Region C/its chapters would be expected to subsidize
 - confirmed availability of brother housing;

Responses from the chapters of Region C to any such proposal must be sent in writing to those making the proposal, as well as to that chapter's section chair and the Region C Chair;

- g) A response from the bare majority of chapters within Region C requires unanimous approval of the chapters;
- h) A response from more than a majority of Region C chapters requires 80 percent of the region's chapters approving;
- i) Any chapter(s) that do not reply within 10 business days shall be considered a vote not in favor;

- j) No individual, subcommittee, region-wide advisory council, or any other comparable such entity aside from the Region C chapters may take up or summarily make such a decision on whether to conjoin Region C to an area conference with another region(s);
- k) The chapters and members of Region C shall not be coerced or pressured into voting to conjoin Region C with another region(s) for the purpose of an area conference;
- l) No chapters outside of Alpha Phi Omega-Region C may have a vote on whether to conjoin Region C to an area conference, unless such a vote is before the voting delegates to the floor of a National Convention legislative session;
- m) Should Region C chapters decide to enter into a conjoined area conference with another region(s), that agreement is valid only for one region/area conference;
- n) This policy may not conflict with the National Articles of Incorporation or National Bylaws. In the event that a conflict should arise as the result of a change to the Articles of Incorporation or the National Bylaws, the portion of this policy that is in conflict shall no longer be in effect. All remaining portions of the policy which are not in conflict will remain in effect. If it is possible, any unenforceable or invalid accountability checkpoints in this statement shall be modified to show the original intention of the chapters.

It should be noted, this statement in no way prohibits Region C from taking part in an area conference with another region(s); it merely establishes region guidelines for due process by which the region will consider such proposals.

Absent the chapters of Region C agreeing via the above-stated method to be conjoined with another region(s) for the purpose of an area conference, we will continue to organize and host an area conference / Region C conference to conduct Region C business, strengthen our common brotherhood, and to continue to do our part to further the aims and objectives of Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity.

All terms in this policy statement, such as 'Region C', shall be understood with respect to what that terminology referred to upon adoption of this policy. Should what is presently understood as an 'area conference' come to acquire another term to connote the same understanding, this statement shall apply to that as well.

A copy of this statement shall be made available electronically to the chapters of Region C, its members, alumni, and those who wish to ask the permission of Region C chapters to conjoin the region with another region(s) for the purpose of hosting an area conference.

Proposed amendments to this statement must be sent to the chapters of Region C with the same time deadlines as when the national fraternity solicits, receives and sets the deadline to no longer entertain proposed legislative amendments to our fraternity's national bylaws, and will be considered at the next available region business meeting. A two-thirds affirmative vote of chapters present is required to make changes to this statement.

Approved by the chapters of Alpha Phi Omega-Region C during the conference business meeting in Norman, OK, on Jan. 18, 2020